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## UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS #533

PROGRAM TITLE

SUSTAINING

ADVERTISER

AGENCY

BERGOFFEN

WRITER

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1943

DAY &amp; DATE

11:30-12:00 NOON CWT BLUE

TIME

**PRODUCTION NOTES**CHARACTERS

JIM

BESS

JERRY

TOM

OTIS

HARVEY HAYS

KATHERINE CARD

JOHN LARKIN

ARTHER KOHL

PHIL LORD

CASTSOUNDREMARKS

MASTER Attached as broadcast:

This copy represents as accurately as possible the program. All alterations made in dramatic and/or musical content are contained herein.

Orchestra Leader

Announcer

Production Director

Agency Producer or Announcer



BLUE

NETWORK

COMPANY

UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS #553

SUB TITLING

REPORTER

THURSDAY, MAY 2, 1945

11:30-12:00 NOON CAT BLUE

# PRODUCTION NOTES

CAST

CHARACTERS

HARVEY HAYS

JIM

KATHERINE CARD

HEER

JOHN LARKIN

JEERY

ARTHUR KOHN

BOB

PHIL FORD

OTIS

REMARKS

SOUND

This copy represents as accurately as possible the program. All alterations made to dramatic and on content are indicated herein.



ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

MUSIC: THEME

ANNOUNCER: Among our home-front Americans who are most concerned with the part their Nation's forests and woodlands must play in this war and beyond is the farm forester, working for public service through the joint cooperative efforts of the Federal and State Governments. In those sections of the country where definite farm forestry projects already have been established, the farm forester is bringing worthwhile advice right into the farm woods where counts most. And, by assisting farmers in the selection and marketing of their tree crops, the farm forester is actually performing a double public service. Not only is he proving how farmers can help Uncle Sam by getting out the wood products critically needed for war, but he is also demonstrating how farmers may help themselves to security in the future through the improvement of their woods by proper cutting and good management today. Now to the Pine Cone Ranger Station, where we join our friends Ranger Jim Robbins, his wife, Bess, and his assistant, Jerry Quick. And there's a supper guest this evening too....Tom Mills, the local farmer forester. Here they are:

FADE IN DINING ROOM SOUNDS, SUSTAIN

Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

ANNOUNCER:

THESE

ARE

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Now to the Pine Cone Ranger Station, where we join our friends Ranger Jim Hopkins, his wife, Bees, and his assistant, Jerry Quinn. And there's a supper guest this evening too... Tom Miller, the local farm forester.

Here they are:

MADE IN DINING ROOM SOUNDS, SUSTAIN



JIM: Here, Tom. Try some more of these string beans.

BESS: Yes, Mr. Mills. They came from our own little garden last year, you know. They're about the last of the beans we canned.

TOM: They're fine all right, Mrs. Robbins, but no thanks, I've had all I can manage, I guess.

JERRY: Hand 'em here, then. Can't waste nothin' these days, or haven't you heard? (HASTILY) Not that I don't like these string beans anyway, Mrs. Robbins.

ALL LAUGH

TOM: Seriously, Mrs. Robbins, this has been swell, comin' here and wrapping myself around a real home-cooked meal... I'll be sure glad when my wife and youngster get here next week so we can get back to regular home eating.

BESS: Oh, I'm glad they're coming. That means you've found a house for them?

TOM: Yes indeed. I was bound to, though, with about everybody in the county looking out for my interest. Talk about cooperative people, Pine Cone County sure has them. They're swell.

JIM: I reckon it's because you've been downright helpful yourself, Tom. Cooperation begets cooperation, you know. Our farmers appreciate the help you've been giving them.





1 JERRY: That reminds me, Tom. I saw Sam Miller yesterday  
2 and, boy, was he enthusiastic about the farm-forestry  
3 program here.

4 BESS: You helped him with his woods, did you, Mr. Mills?

5 TOM: Oh, I just assisted him in selling some logs at a fair  
6 price, that was all.

7 JERRY: Listen to the man.

8 JIM: (CHUCKLING) Yeah. I happen to know about Miller's case,  
9 too. This is what happened, Bess. And you can correct  
10 me if I'm wrong, Tom.

11 TOM: Go ahead.

12 JIM: Sam was needing some ready cash to fix up a barn, see?  
13 Well, he decided to sell the timber on about 80  
14 acres of his hundred or more acres of woodland. And  
15 got what he thought was a pretty good offer of 600  
16 dollars for all the timber on that eight, acres.

17 JERRY: Yeah. Then he heard about Tom, here, and asked for his  
18 advice.

19 JIM: With the result, Bess, that Tom pitched in and cruised  
20 the timber with Sam and together they turned up enough  
21 big timber, just the mature stuff mind you, to guaran tee  
22 Sam some fourteen hundred dollars worth of stumpage,  
23 plus approximately two hundred and eighty cords of firewood  
24 from the tops. That's 800 dollars more than Sam was offered,  
25 for the stumpage alone.





TOM: Yes, that's right, Jim. I was able to line up a good buyer for Mr. Miller and they're working on his land now. But after all, that's what my job is, to help folks realize the true value of their timber, and to speed up getting out the wood for war.

BESS: I think it's fine. And of course you're kept busy all the time now that the farmers know you're available?

TOM: Yes, ma'am. I've got quite a back-log of prospects already and my time's pretty well taken up all right.

JIM: Well, I'm glad the farmers in this county are going all out with you, Tom.

TOM: I'd say they were, all right...but there's one rather disturbing exception.

JERRY: What do you mean, Tom?





1 TOM: Well, as you know, we're always on the lookout for certain  
2 special kinds of timber that's urgently needed for the war job.  
3 In this case, the man's got the best stand of old-growth  
4 hardwoods anywhere around. It'd be prime for ship stock and  
5 aircraft lumber. A lot of it's over-mature really and ought  
6 to be cut, not only for the good of the war effort but for  
7 the good of the timber stand itself.

8 JIM: Who is it, Tom? Who's got all this fine old hardwood.

9 TOM: Fellow by the name of Biggs. Otis Biggs. He lives all alone  
10 out on the Spring Creek Road. Know him?

11 JERRY: Does Jim know him? (WHISTLES) And how.

12 BESS: Oh dear.

13 JIM: That old rascal. You might just as well forget it, Tom. You  
14 won't get anywhere with Otis Biggs.

15 BESS: Otis Biggs is a good man, Jim Robbins. Just because you two  
16 don't get along..

17 TOM: Hey! What did I get into here?

18 JERRY: You might just as well know now as later, Tom. (DRAMATICALLY)  
19 In Otis Biggs, my friend, you have the discarded side of  
20 the well-known romantic triangle that once involved Mr. Biggs,  
21 this gentleman at my side known as Ranger Jim Robbins  
22 and our fine hostess, Mrs. Robbins.

23 TOM: Oh no. Really?

24 JERRY: Oh yes. Really.. I hope I didn't speak out of turn, Mrs. Robbins

25 BESS: (LAUGHING LIGHTLY) Not at all, Jerry. The whole thing's  
very silly.





1 JIM: Silly huh? Then why is it Otis Biggs has never had a good  
2 word for me in all the years since I took you away from him, huh?

3 BESS: I don't think you've helped matters very much by yourself, Jim  
4 Robbins. The idea. Two grown men like you and Otis being on  
5 the outs for thirty years. But that's neither here nor there.  
6 Mr. Mills, isn't interested in our domestic difficulties..

7 JIM: There's no difficulty at all. Otis and I just don't get along.  
8 That's all.

9 BESS: I still say all that has no bearing on the timber Otis has on  
10 his land. According to Mr. Mills, it ought to be contributing  
11 to the war job.

12 TOM: That's the way I feel about that timber all right. But I haven't  
13 been able to get very far with Mr. Biggs. He just prefers  
14 to leave that stand uncut and that's all there is to it.

15 BESS: I think that's terrible. Maybe if Otis could be made to  
16 understand how important it is to release some of those  
17 trees, from the war angle of course, he'd cooperate more  
18 willingly.

19 JERRY: It'd be good for the timber stand itself, don't forget! He ought  
20 to sell the old babies while they're still sound..he ought to  
21 understand that, too..

22 JIM: Otis Biggs couldn't be made be understand anything except his  
23 own pig-headed desires.

24 BESS: Otis is not pig-headed. Maybe he's a little stubborn, but he  
25 has a right to that.

TOM: Aw, forget it folks. Maybe it'll work out.





1 BESS: I think we can help it work out, Mr. Mills.

2 JERRY: ( Oh, oh.

3 JIM: What're you plannin' to do, Bess?

4 BESS: Get your coats, gentlemen. We're going to pay a visit to a  
5 certain other gentleman who lives out on the Spring Creek  
6 Road.





JIM: Count me out, Bess. There ain't room enough for all of us in Tom's little car. Besides somebody ought to stay here in case we get in a fire call or something.

BESS: No, Jim. Jerry won't mind staying on duty here, will you, Jerry?

JERRY: Not at all. I think you better go, Jim,

TOM: I wish you would, Jim.

JIM: Okay, okay. (CHAIR SCRAPPED BACK) Come on, then, let's get it over with. Not that it'll (FADE) Do any good though.

PAUSE:

FADE IN SOUND OF WALKING UP STEPS, THEN OUT

BESS: Go on, Jim, knock on the door.

JIM: Well, good gravy don't rush me, Bess. (KNOCKS) I bet the old skinflint brings a shot-gun with him, if he answers at all. (KNOCKS)

BESS: I think he's coming..and Jim..?

JIM: Yeah?

BESS: Jim, try to be civil, will you? This really is more important than your own personal feelings about Otis, don't forget.

JIM: Okay Bess. Stop worrying. I'm thinking about that timber too and the planes it would help to build. Ssh. Here he is.

DOOR OPENS

OTIS: Who's there? Oh, it's you, Jim Robbins. What's the big idea busin' in on folks this time of night. Who's that with you?

BESS: Good evening, Otis.

OTIS: Huh? Well, bless my soul if it isn't Bess. Come in, come in, fore you catch your death of cold, Bess. Come on in, all of you a course. Take chairs and sit down.





1 DOOR CLOSES

2 BESS: I'll sit right here by this nice fire, thank you. How are you  
3 Otis? We haven't seen you in some time.

4 OTIS: I'm fine, fine. And say, you look fine too, Bess. Just as nice  
5 lookin' as ..

6 JIM: You know Tom Mills here, our farm forester, don't you, Otis?

7 OTIS: Yeah, yeah, sure. Howdy..you know somethin', Bess?

8 BESS: Yes?

9 OTIS: Bess, this is the first time you've set foot acrost my threshold  
10 in twenty-five, no, thirty years, I'm doggoned proud to see  
11 you here tonight. Yes sir. It's just like old times, ain't it,  
12 when..

13 JIM: Otis, we came here to talk about your hardwood timber. Mills  
14 says a lot of it's ripe for cutting and it'd sure come in  
15 handy right now.

16 OTIS: My timber, huh? You've come about that timber. Well, I've talked  
17 some with Mills about that and he knows where I stand. I don't  
18 intend to let that timber be cut..Bess, you comfortable sitting  
19 there? Want for me to get you another pillow or somethin'  
20 for your back?

21 BESS: No, I'm fine, Otis. Don't mind me.

22 OTIS: It's sure good to see you in this house again, Bess. Yes sir.

23 TOM: About your timber, Mr. Biggs. Since I talked with you the  
24 other day, I've learned of at least three timber buyers  
25 who'll pay top prices for your mature hardwood.



OTIS: Look, Mills. I aint interested, I tell you. I know that old timber of mine is worth a pile of money, I'm just not fixin' to have it cut, not while I'm still alive at least, I got, well, I got sentimental reasons for not letting those trees go.

JIM: (WORKING UP) See, Bess. What did I tell you? It doesn't matter to Otis here that Uncle Sam is needing some of his big timber badly or even that here's a good chance for Otis to do his own woods a good turn by takin' Tom's advice. No, all that doesn't matter a hoot. Your old boy friend won't turn any of it loose..for sentimental reasons, he says. He'll rather see it just rot and die.

BESS: Now, Jim, please..

OTIS: Hold on a minute, Bess. What..what's all this got to do with your coming to my house tonight? You against me too, in this business?

BESS: When you put it that way, Otis..it..well now I'm ashamed. I think, perhaps, it'd have been easier if we hadn't come.

OTIS: Aw, now, Bess. Don't say that. Shucks. It don't matter what you come here for, I'm that glad to see you again. Honest.

BESS: It was all my idea, Otis . I felt if we only had a chance to explain to you about how badly your timber is needed these days and..well, now I see we shouldn't have come.

CHAIRS SCR/PE BACK

JIM: Come on, Tom. We better go, I reckon.

OTIS: Now, you wait a minute, Jim Robbins. I want to ask Bess somethin'.





1 BESS: Please, Otis. I feel badly enough about all this.

2 OTIS: Bess, if that old timber stand of mine was yours to do with

3 as you saw fit, what would you do?

4 BESS: I..I don't want to answer that question, Otis.

5 OTIS: No, and I reckon you don't have to, Bess. I know what you'd do.

6 I reckon I've been a blind old fool at that.

7 BESS: Don't say that, Otis.

8 OTIS: (CLEARING THROAT) Mills, I'd like for you to give me a hand,

9 first chance you get, in marketing some of those old trees of

10 mine. Not all, mind you. Just those that'll do the most

11 good for the war and all, right now.

12 TOM: Say! That's swell, Mr. Biggs. I'll be out just as soon as

13 I get a chance. Believe me, you timber's goin' to really help

14 out in our war program.

15 JIM: Otis, I want to shake your hand. You're all right, man.

16 BESS: Oh yes. Now you two can be real friends again.

17 OTIS: I'll shake your hand, Jim Robbins, but don't get the notion

18 I did anything special. You can thank Bess here for everything.

19 JIM: Shucks, Otis. Of course you deserve credit..for being a

20 considerate patriotic citizen, that's what. Maybe Bess here

21 helped you see things a bit, but...come on, shake hands.

22 OTIS: THERE you go again. I tell you it's all Bess' doing. You heard

23 me say I was savin' those trees for sentimental reasons, didn't

24 you?

25 JIM: Yes, but what's that got to..





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OTIS:

I was aimin' for those trees to be my wedding present to Bess thirty years ago, if she'd a married me 'stead of you, Jim Robbins. But she picked you. And I decided then and there I wasn't goin' to let anybody have those trees so long as Bess didn't get 'em. Well..Bess comin' here tonight and all, and admittin', practically, what she'd do with 'em if they really was her trees..well, that's good enough for me in this day and time. There. Now do you understand? And you still want to shake hands with me?

JIM:

You bet I do, Otis Biggs, and doggoned proud to, Shake.

MUSICALE FINALE

ANNOUNCER:

Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you each week during the National Farm and Home Hour as a network presentation, with the cooperation of the Forest Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

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